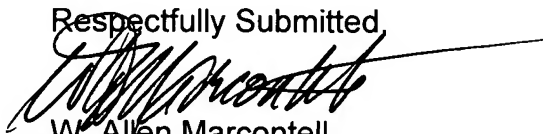


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the prior art and arguments advanced in the parent application prosecution, Applicant respectfully submits the foregoing claims as clearly patentable over the prior art.

Date: January 21, 2004

Respectfully Submitted,

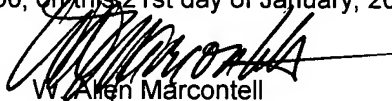


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I hereby certify that this correspondence, along with any referred to as enclosed or attached, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Label No. ER 153245820 US, Postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on this 21st day of January, 2004.



W. Allen Marcontell